

Town of Scituate COVID19 Update

June 18, 2020

COVID19 Cases: yesterday we saw one new antibody positive case; one new case at Cardigan Nursing. Statewide positive cases have gone down to 2%. This data will inform the Governor about next phases of reopening. He is expected to announce on Saturday whether we can go to Phase II, Step II re-opening. The Town is awaiting more guidance for what that will mean for Scituate.

Town Meeting will take place outside on the SHS Athletic Field on Saturday, June 27th at 9am. Residents must wear a face covering and will be seated six feet apart on the field and in the stands. More detailed information on the meeting plans will be posted along with the warrant articles following Advisory review of the revised budgets tomorrow.

BOS reviewed budgets which anticipate a 10% reduction in State aid and other reductions on Tuesday night and approved a revised FY21 operating and capital budget to be presented to residents for review and vote at Town Meeting.

Front Street partial closure began last week to accommodate outdoor seating and selling for businesses between Otis and Beal Street. Please know that Harbor House Pizza is open for pick-up and delivery. The police detail will let you pull up if you need to. Also Otis Street remains open from Cole Parkway through Front Street so drivers can easily access the other sections of Front Street by driving around Cole Parkway and back out to Front Street. This week closure will be Thursday, 4-8pm, Friday and Saturday, 4-10pm, and Sunday 1-8pm.

Other applications for use of public ways are anticipated and encouraged to help support local business during the pandemic safety rules. All approvals will be subject to the current guidelines from the State concerning occupancy, safe distancing, and other safety protocols. If you would like more information about how to apply for extra space, or have an idea how the town can assist your business, please call the Town Administrator's office at 781-545-8741 or email seascituate@gmail.com.

Playgrounds are now open. Please remember that the Town is not sanitizing the equipment. Make sure you follow careful hygiene practices after using the playgrounds. You must wear masks on the grounds and practice social distancing as much as possible. As long as residents can do their best and public safety isn't demonstrably compromised, the playgrounds will remain open. Hours will be 8am-8pm. Much like the dog park and basketball courts, the town is monitoring use. The HS basketball courts remain closed because they have been a magnet for pick-up games and participants are not adhering to the safety guidelines.

Water Department reminds residents again that water usage is very high. Outdoor hand watering is only allowed before 9am and after 5pm. Precinct use of irrigation use is

once a week. A reverse 9-1-1 call was made to remind residents of the rules, warnings will be issued soon and, if not effective, \$100/day fines will be issued.

Please report any incidents of brown water. Although we have high usage, there have been no recent reports from residents. The Water Department would like to know any time you experience incidents so they can track down the source. The efforts over the last two years have made a significant improvement in water quality and the town is committed to eradicating as much as possible. If you have brown water call 781-545-8735 and leave your address and phone number or email brownwater@scituatema.gov. Much progress has been made over the past two years and work is planned to continue to replace problem equipment and improve conditions throughout town.

Scituate Loves Local will be launching a campaign next Monday that will be sell themed boxes every other week containing merchandise and gift cards to several local businesses. Next week is sponsored by the West Cork Sister City Committee and is "A Taste of Ireland" with gift cards to either The Voyage, TK O'Malleys, or Galley, scratch ticket from Hennessey news, a gift card to Scituate Package store and a pint glass for your purchase, along with lots of surprises from the Committee. There are only 25 available on a first-come/first-serve basis for \$50 each (value exceeds cost) and can be reserved at seascituate@gmail.com.

Please continue to wear your mask, wash your hands, and stay home if you don't feel well.

Next broadcast will be Monday, 6/22 at 9:30am.